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STUDENT ASSEMBLY WANTS YOU

Learn about what Student Representative candidates want to do for you next year. See page 2.

STICKY OR SATISFYING?

In this week's Under the Covers, discover the struggles of incorporating food in the bedroom and Cosmo's misleading suggestions. See page 9.

GREEK DRAMA REVAMPED

This semester's main stage theater production, Orestes 2.0, a modern take on an ancient play continues this weekend. See page 12.

THE SPECTATOR

Thursday, April 19, 2012

Volume LII Number 23

PHOTOS BY ELIZABETH COMATOS '15

HAVOC holds first annual Service Awareness Week

by Sirianna Santacrose '15
News Contributor

Last week, the Hamilton Association for Volunteering, Outreach and Charity (HAVOC) held its first annual Service Awareness Week based on the slogan "Burst the Bubble!" A variety of events and activities happened on campus to promote the importance of community outreach and to expose students to the different community service opportunities offered at Hamilton. E-mails were sent out to the student body encouraging people to get involved in different ways throughout the week. Participants volunteered at sites such as Johnson Park Center, United Cerebral Policy and Lutheran Home. Still others took part in deeds as simple and fun as playing soccer or basketball with local children. The week's efforts culminated on Saturday, April 14 during the HAVOC Spring Fest.

On Dunham Green, student clubs and outreach organizations gathered together to advertise themselves and to raise awareness about community service opportunities on campus. Clinton families were invited to join in the festivities and local children were delighted at the games, face-painting and food offered. Clubs and sports teams set up booths with different activities, and SASA even made homemade chai tea for the event. Samantha Schwartz '13, who is on HAVOC's e-board, thought that the week was successful in bringing the Hamilton community together and for the fact that "it also connected the College to Clinton and its residents."

Danielle Lashley '13, director of HAVOC this year, stated that the event had a dual purpose. "It was meant to promote outreach but also to advertise student clubs and get more people involved," she said.

One club that used a clever tactic to get people's attention was Active Minds, the new awareness group that centers on creating conversations about mental health. Their booth included bubble wrap, which people could pop for fun and to decrease their stress. Three acapella groups also performed, which drew in a larger crowd, and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Last year, HAVOC sent out a survey to the student body asking

see *Spring Fest*, page 2

Holocaust survivor, Sperling, tells her story

by Rachel Lieb '13
Editor-in-chief

As students, faculty and community members filed into the Chapel on April 17, one could easily miss the little old lady sitting quietly in a chair in front of the podium, observing the crowd.

Director of the Days-Massolo Center Amit Taneja addressed the crowd first, reminding the audience that genocide is not a memory from the recent past but continues to this day. Following his brief remarks, Hillel members said the Yizkor, a prayer in memory of the Holocaust, and lit candles. Jewish Chaplain Anat Guez then introduced Helen Sperling, a Holocaust survivor who will celebrate her 92nd birthday next week.

Ms. Sperling began her talk with a simple statement: "I am a Jew and I am a survivor."

Sperling was born to a middle class family in Northern Poland. When the Nazis invaded Poland, she was only 19 years old and was studying medicine at a local university. She told the captivated audience about her childhood, her friends and her family. Humorous anecdotes and sweet memories accompanied the first part of her speech.

Sperling recounted her disbelief of Hitler's promise to erase the Jews. Again and again, she told herself, that it could never happen. The one thing that Sperling remembered best about the Nazis was their boots: "ugly, black and shiny."

The Jewish community in her small town adjusted quickly to the new laws and regulations concerning their daily life. She told a story about when a German soldier sat in her father's chair and ordered her mother to get down on the ground and polish his boots. Sperling said, "I never felt such helplessness."

Eventually, Sperling and her family were forced into a ghetto near Warsaw. She remembered that, at first, conditions were tolerable. There was enough food, but the ghetto itself was crowded and dirty. She explained that obedience in the ghetto not only guaranteed personal safety, but familial safety as well.

The two most feared words in the ghetto were "transport" and "selection." Individuals and entire families disappeared from the ghetto never to be heard from again. Eventually, the ghetto was liquidated and Sperling's entire family was packed into cattle cars with the other Jews headed towards concentration camps. Sperling spared the audience no details concerning Nazi brutality.

Sperling was eventually sent to two concentration camps: Ravensbruck and Buchenwald. At Buchenwald, a labor camp, she worked a munitions factory. Sperling recalled with a smile that she rebelled against the Nazis by cutting shells too short to be used. When she was discovered, the S.S. Commander beat her badly.

"It gets better. I brought you to camp and now I will liberate you," Sperling promised.

The most important part of her survival, Sperling told us, was keeping her dignity. When "spiffy" American soldiers liberated the women in her camp, the soldiers made dinner for them and covered the tables with white tablecloths. The tablecloths, Sperling smiled, made them feel respected and dignified after years of feeling dirty and sub-human.

After liberation, Sperling spent three years in a German hospital cared for by Franciscan nuns. "They thought they could convert me." Sperling vehemently shook her head, which made the audience erupt in laughter.

Sperling immigrated to the United States shortly after she was released from the hospital. She married another Holocaust survivor and they adopted two children. When an elementary school classmate called her daughter "a dirty Jew", Sperling decided it was time to share her story with the world. Ms. Sperling ended her speech by reminding the audience that the Holocaust was not the last genocide. She encouraged the audience to act, because being a bystander is equally as bad as participating in genocide. Look for Hillel tables around campus selling bracelets that read: "Thou shall not be a bystander." All proceeds will aid orphans who were victims of Rwandan genocide.

Election Platforms

Class representatives

2013

Katy Smith

Hello rising Seniors! I spent my first two years as one of your Student Assembly class representatives, and spent last year as your Class President. I would like to apply what I've learned thus far and continue to aid our class as a senior class representative. On Student Assembly, I am currently the Technology Chair, which is responsible for the movie channel and for communicating technological concerns from the student body to those who can help. If elected, I will continue to advocate for our class and for our school.

Rebecca Carson Weingarten

As your Student Assembly representative I will be your authentic, proactive envoy carrying your concerns forward. The SA is a vital component to upholding Hamilton's democratic diversity. I will honestly & earnestly represent your views. I believe in buoying a community based on inclusiveness & compassion. My varied on-campus activities include leading Adirondack Adventure, which has enabled me to work with an array of students, listening, advising and learning. I take pride in solid, mutual relationships with students and faculty. As your class representative I will continuously work to guarantee that the Class of 2013 remembers why they chose Hamilton.

Knute Gailor

Realizing that we only have two semesters left at Hamilton while registering for classes was shocking, but exciting - next year will be challenging, interesting, and, most importantly, a great time. After serving as Student Assembly president, CAB co-chair and class of 2013 representative, I'm confident that I can help make our senior year all that it can, and should, be.

Luxsika Junboonta

I believe in improving the quality of campus life and creating an unforgettable Hamilton experience in a place we will remember for the rest of our lives. As a current class of 2013 representative, I have gained necessary experience to further create changes that will enhance student life on campus. If elected, I will continue to reach out to individual student concerns and work to increase diversity events on campus.

2014

Felipe Garcia

I consider the class of 2014 to be my extended family away from home. My fellow colleagues are like my brothers and sisters. As a current class representative, I make it a point to relay everyone's suggestions the people who matter. As the current chair of the Food Committee, I managed to bring back curly fries and introduce milkshakes at the Diner! I have probably asked you if you had any concerns, subsequently, voicing them to the Central council of Student Assembly or directly to Hamilton College professional staff. Next year's plans are going to be even bigger and better. Vote Felipe—your brother from another mother!

Marla Marquez

Throughout the past two years at Hamilton College, I have been involved in a variety of organizations and participated in various community service groups. I see the numerous activities Hamilton offers for the students and witness our approval/disapproval of them. In order to assess/adjust the events Hamilton offers its students, most importantly our class (2014), I am running for Junior class Representative. I believe I can help express the concerns of our class and aid in bringing the changes we want to occur.

Morgan Markman

When I saw the chance to become a class representative for the third time, I immediately began to think of new ways to initiate change and better the Hamilton community. I feel that this position requires a leader, someone who is dedicated, a person who cares about their peers and wants to address the important issues that come about on campus, such as diversity. I am here to be your eyes, ears, and voice to make sure that no student goes unrecognized. My goal as a representative is to keep Hamilton's traditions alive while helping you make the most out of your experience on campus.

Nile Berry

In third grade, I was elected the class representative, and I accidentally killed the school's hamster. Last year, as your rep, I didn't kill anything. I'd say that's a pretty good improvement. Can you trust someone who hasn't shown improvement? No. Even though I wasn't your class rep this year, I did more than all of them combined. Facial. What you need: A leader. What you've got: Nile Berry. Either way, your vote is going to the same place.

Jeff Sobotko

My name is Jeff Sobotko and I would like YOUR vote for Class of 2014 Representative. I served as class rep this year and really enjoyed it. I served on a wide variety of committees, helping to coordinate things such as the Syracuse Basketball trip, Winter Lights and sweeping changes to the Student Assembly Constitution. I've worked hard for this class/school and would love the opportunity to continue my service through an elected position. Plus I'm a nice guy. So yeah.

2015

Anthony Jackson

After serving as one of your class representatives this past year, I've had the chance to be apart of a multitude of conversations regarding integral components of the college's academic and social structure. Conversations that have included the issue of sexual harassment, campus destruction caused by overconsumption of alcohol, and the reconsideration the point system. During my time in office I've also served as a Student Assembly representative on the Committee on the First-Year Experience, the Couper Librarian Search Committee and the Student Diversity Council. Within Student Assembly, I have served on the Cultural Affairs Committee (of which I am now Chair), Philanthropy Committee, Constitution Committee and Facilities Committee. Each one of the aforementioned committees and councils have achieved a great deal within the past year, and I hope continue my services for our class in the upcoming year.

*see **Election Platforms**, page 4*

Student Assembly Update

by Emily Moore '15
Copy Editor

Mamma Mia Stroll

Student Assembly had a visit from the Clinton Merchants this week. As a part of their attempt to make Clinton more of a 'college town,' they are holding a Mamma Mia stroll on Saturday, April 28. Falling right before Mother's Day, this is a perfect opportunity for Hamilton students to pick up gifts for their moms. There will be a prize drawing that participants can enter if they get stamps from 12 shops, featuring Queen for a Day-themed prizes. Also during the stroll, the opening of the Antiques Café will take place. The Café will have limited hours for now but hopes to be open all day by fall semester. The Clinton Merchants also wanted to make the Hamilton community aware that most stores will wrap and ship gifts for a $7 charge. More information about the Mamma Mia stroll is available on the posters around campus.

Movie Channel Changes Continue

This week, Student Assembly voted to renew Hamilton's contract with the movie channel provider for next year. This contract provides Hamilton with 96 movies, all of which are used, at a cost of $13,382. Considering how many people use the movie channel, what seems like a lot of money is in fact quite reasonable. The Student Interest committee is also trying to get an e-board of seven members together and join the Media Board to prepare for student programming on the movie channel next year. The e-board would eventually become independent of Student Interest, with the movie channel essentially functioning the way WHCL does.

Spring Fest connects Clinton and College

Special K performed on Saturday for students and Clinton families.

*from **Spring Fest**, page 1*

what students felt would help get more people involved in community service on campus. An overwhelming number of students replied that their lack of involvement was not due to a lack of interest; rather, they were unaware of the ways in which they could get involved. So a large goal of Service Awareness Week this year was to fix this issue by clearly exhibiting the numerous outreach clubs and activities that students can join.

Many students' reactions to the week confirmed its success. Julie Dursema '15 thinks the week was effective: "I always wanted to do community service, but I didn't really know how to get involved. This week helped me to learn more about the opportunities that Hamilton offers to help others." Similarly, Liz Dabrama '15 was impressed by the number of people that showed up to the Spring Fest.

"Coming in a freshman, I felt a little isolated on the Hill," she said. But this seemed like a great way to connect the College to the Clinton community." Overall, the week turned out to be a success, and hopefully, its impact will be felt as the year comes to a close and we move toward a new semester.

Hamilton math students steal the show at Seaway

by Caitlin O'Connor '14
Sports Editor

The real winners on Friday night weren't dancing in the Annex; they were competing in a cutthroat game of Math Jeopardy in Kirner-Johnson Auditorium. While the scores got close and emotions heated up, Hamilton's team of six (see below) kept their cool and ultimately pulled away from the pack in thrilling fashion, beating out SUNY Fredonia by one dollar in Final Jeopardy.

This past weekend, the Hamilton College Math Department hosted over 185 participants from 36 institutions for the Spring 2012 meeting of the Seaway Section of the Mathematical Association of America. The Mathematical Association of America is the largest professional society that focuses on mathematics accessible at the undergraduate level. The Association is divided into 29 geographical regions throughout the United States, with the Seaway Section stretching from Canada down into central New York State.

Professor Robert Kantrowitz, Chair of the Mathematics Department, was the host for the conference, and began the planning process over a year in advance. With the help of Professor Bedient and Dannelle Parker in Auxiliary Services, Professor Kantrowitz was able secure multiple guest speakers, arrange for food and facilities and coordinate the entire registration process.

According to Professor Kantrowitz, "Like the national meetings, the overarching purpose is for mathematicians and mathematics students to gather for cross-pollination–to present, share and discuss ideas that they have been working on, both in the realm of mathematics proper and also in connection with the teaching of undergraduate mathematics."

David Bressoud, the former president of the MAA, was invited to speak at Friday's banquet, where he talked about the development of mathematical analysis in the early 1800s, a perfect tie-in with Hamilton's bicentennial.

In addition to esteemed faculty across the field of mathematics, the conference set a record high for the number of student presentations at 23. Twelve of these presenters were Hamilton students, speaking on topics ranging from vaccination strategies to optimal peg solitaire solutions.

Senior Amelia Mattern gave a talk on Linear Algebra as part of her candidacy for graduation with Math Honors. "I thought everyone was very welcoming and friendly, and although I only saw practice talks of other students, they were all well spoken, accessible and all around great," said Mattern after her presentation on Saturday afternoon.

Due to the maze-like nature of KJ, Hamilton math majors volunteered to direct visitors to their appropriate destinations throughout the event. Co-captained by Madeline Umscheid '14 and Caitlin O'Connor '14, the student volunteers were unmistakable in their Continental blue t-shirts at checkpoints throughout the building.

Despite everyone's busy April schedules, Umscheid remarked, "All of the student volunteers were really enthusiastic about helping out, even at 7:30 a.m. on a Saturday morning."

As the conference attendees departed from the Hill late Saturday afternoon, their heads were filled with memories of Hamilton's picturesque campus, delicious food and welcoming student body, who also just so happen to also be the Math Jeopardy champions of the Seaway.

PHOTO BY SARA MEISSNER '13

Above, Gabie Fleming '14, Taylor Friedman '14, Kerkira Stockton '14 and Professor of Mathematics Robert Kantrowitz register incoming participants.
Below, the winning Math Jeopardy team, Alex Snow '12, Sam Zimmerman '14, Meg Schlosser '13, Doug Santoro '14, Madeline Umscheid '14 and Caitlin O'Connor '14

PHOTO COURTESY OF ROBERT KANTROWITZ

PHOTO BY CATHERINE BERRY '15

Hamiltonians fail to dance the night away

by Catherine Hee '14
News Editor

From 8 p.m. on Friday night to 6 a.m. the next morning, students participated in the Dance Marathon, a new event hosted by the Campus Activities Board, Social Traditions Committee, Philanthropy Committee and Student Assembly. Students could register as a team or as individuals with a donation benefitting Clinton's ABC House. A Better Chance is a national program that sponsors inner city high school scholars to attend better schools. The Clinton House, entering its 40th year, is located on the Hill and sponsors eight males, who attend Clinton High School and are tutored by Hamilton students.

"The Clinton ABC House has been the [the Student Assembly Philanthropy's] charity all year," explained Student Assembly Vice President Tara Huggins '14, who planned the event, "I consider the $1,475 that we raised for the ABC House quite a lot of money for a small organization."

The idea for a dance marathon was brought forward by Megan McCareins '14, who realized that some schools raise hundreds of thousands of dollars through similar traditions. While she acknowledged that they succeeded in raising money, she "was a little disheartened by the small turnout...An event like this greatly depends on students' willingness to drop their plans and come together as a community, which didn't really happen this year." Although a few hundred students wandered in and out throughout the night, the marathon ended two hours early at 6 a.m. when only one student remained.

Prizes, including iPod speakers, gift cards, a grill, movies and a Kindle Touch, were offered for students who attended. "The Dance Marathon was so much fun," said Meghan Doherty '14 "I think in later years it will grow into something much bigger and involve more of the campus."

Mock Trial ends season with 1-7 record at National Championship

by Emily Moore '15
Copy Editor

This weekend, Hamilton's Mock Trial team headed off to Hamline University in Minnesota. Having previously finished fourth at the Regional Championships in Buffalo and third at the Opening Round Championship Series in Ohio, the team qualified to go to the 28th Annual National Championship Tournament.

Duke University ultimately won this year's tournament against Rutgers, who had won in Hamilton's division.

"We didn't do as well as we were hoping this weekend," said Captain Tyler Roberts '12. The team finished with an overall record of 1-7, which resulted in last place in its division. The Tournament consists of two 24 team divisions, making up the top-48 college mock trial programs in the nation.

We had a couple of clean trials at the National Championship and just faced some really strong teams," said Roberts, but "it was a great season and was the best Hamilton has ever done." This is the first time the Mock Trial team has advanced beyond the Opening Round Championship in its 10 year history.

Mock Trial members at Nationals included Roberts, Julia Goldstein '12, Libby Gutschenritter '13, Emily Tompsett '13, Jason Driscoll '14, Pat Bedard '14, KT Stein '14, Maggie McGuire '15, and Ian Carradine '15. The team competed against University of New Hampshire, Loyola University Chicago, University of Cincinnati, and University of Alabama at Birmingham this weekend.

The team spends all year preparing a case for tournaments. This year's case involved a drunk driving fatality and the focus of the trials was on both the drunk driving charge and the murder charge. Each college's team prepares witnesses and lawyers for both sides in the case, prosecution and defense.

Hamilton's Mock Trial team is known on campus for their dedication to the team and the amount of preparation they do. Jason Driscoll acknowledged this as a major factor in their success this year. "The team put in tons of effort this year and really got down to business when it mattered most. A few weeks before regionals I wasn't sure how we would fare, but once we realized the potential and focused our talent we went out and really performed."

"Making it to Nationals this year was really just the culmination of our team's effort and talent," Driscoll says. He has high hopes for next year. "We learned valuable lessons that will allow our team to compete at a higher level. I expect that our performance this year will serve as a standard for years to come."

Election Platforms

from ***Election Platforms****, page 2*

Gipper Gailor

My name is Gipper Gailor, and I am running for Class of 2015 Representative to Student Assembly. I came to Hamilton this spring as a January Admit, and I have been lucky enough to get to know many of you since then. I currently serve on Student Assembly as the Director of Public Communication and would like to continue to serve the student body and the Class of 2015. As Class Representative, I will do my best to listen to each of you and make your voices heard on the Assembly. If elected, I am confident that I can represent our class and continue the progress the Student Assembly has made this year toward making Hamilton a better place. Thank you, and vote Gipper Gailor for Class Representative.

Jack Cartwright

My name is Jack Cartwright, and I am running for reelection for the position of class representative. I was honored to be able to represent the class of 2015 for the past year on student assembly. Having served on the food, technology and student interest committees, I have seen that effective and positive change is possible on campus, and I think I can help continue to make that positive change. I am running for reelection and would really appreciate your vote.

Sarah Larson

My name is Sarah Larson, and I'm running for re-election as a Class Representative. I will continue to make an excellent representative because I'm fair, experienced, organized, creative and a good listener. During my last term I helped put lights up on Martins way, get a GPS for the jitney and get a new jukebox. I also personally communicated with administration over the drinking policy and a new points system. As an experienced representative, I understand how to "make things happen" here at Hamilton. I promise to make sure your concerns are addressed expediently. I'm totally open for suggestions, questions and concerns-feel free to give me a call (515-822-2773) or just talk to me in person. If you love Hamilton and want to continue to improve it, please vote again for Sarah Larson!

Honor Court representatives

2013

Danielle Lashley

As a current member of the Honor Court, I am fair and meticulous with each case. With two years of experience on the Honor Court, I know how to fairly balance the well-being of students charged with academic dishonesty with the precedents of the Hamilton College Academic Honor Code. If elected again this year, I will make sure Hamilton continues to be a community filled with trust and academic integrity.

2014

Ben Ligas

Hello to everyone in the Class of 2014! My name is Ben Ligas, and I have been one of your two representatives to the Honor Court for the the last year. In the past year, I have overseen several cases with my fellow Honor Court representatives and have learned a great deal about how our honor system works and just how important it is to our education here at Hamilton. It is through the enforcement of the honor code that the Court maintains the stellar academic record that Hamilton has held for two centuries. In my position on the Court I have always provided fair trials and listened intently to the testimony of those who come before the Court. Additionally, I strongly adhere to long standing precedent set by the Court, while also keeping an open mind about any policies put forward by other members of the Court. I have learned a great deal about the Court this year, and I hope I can continue learning and serving the members of the Class of 2014 and the Hamilton community by being elected to another year on the Court. Thank you very much for your consideration!

Hillary Kolodner

Having served our sophomore year on honor court, I learned firsthand the importance of remaining levelheaded, objective and analytical of all sides of the story. I quickly developed strong listening skills and the confidence to voice my opinion amongst the small group of students and professors. I was an effective, active and extremely vocal member of the Honor Court. Serving on the Court is certainly not a fun or easy responsibility, but I really enjoyed being there for my peers to offer a balanced perspective to the court in many unfortunate situations. I have the experience and familiarity to continue to be a strong junior representative, so vote for me!

Judicial Board representatives

2013

Jon Michel

As a current member of the Judicial Board, I have come to realize the Judicial Board members are not disciplinarians but are instead a group that guides and upholds the standard of conduct we have become accustomed to here at Hamilton. When I joined this board last fall, I joined because I felt I wanted to give back to a community that has given me many great opportunities. Today, I still believe this, and I believe that by voting me as a member of the Judicial Board I will be able to continue to help guide our student body in a positive direction.

2014

Nile Berry

As your J-board rep, I would ensure that the judicial meetings are comprehensible and fair for both the administration and the student. As Student Interest Chair last semester, I began a dialogue with both Nancy Thompson and Jeff Landry to discuss possible point system changes, one of which was to create a smarter point forgiveness program. I see this as a continued discussion to make the point system at Hamilton both better and clearer for the entire student body. Vote for Nile Berry. Strong, Educated, Possibly a Superhero.

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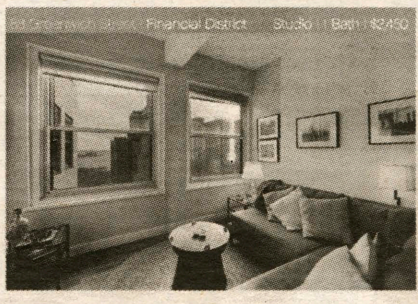
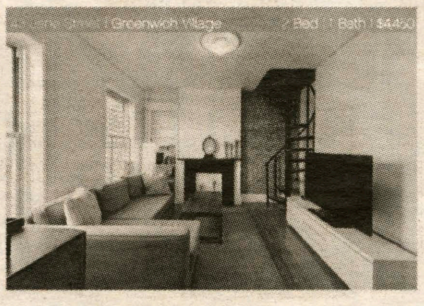

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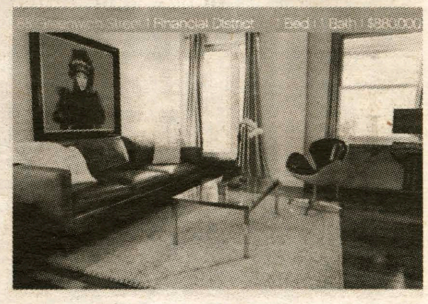

Perspective for prospective students

Accepted Students' Day has become too regimented, preventing students from really getting a sense of what it is like to be a Hamilton student. Although many of the activities currently provide students with valuable information, seminars and tours do not provide the full story. Such sessions are canned and tours guides are all trained by the Office of Admission. As a result, prospective students are missing out on an opportunity to accurately determine if Hamilton is where they want to be.

The most effective way to improve this would be to provide prospective students with more opportunities to ask frank questions of current students who are not being paid for their input. The overnights that some prospective students participate in offer the most effective method for getting a true sense of the Hamilton experience. We understand that providing overnight hosts for the number of students that participate in Accepted Students' Day would prove impractical, but we suggest that, instead of the many information sessions and structured activities, prospective students could spend at least a few hours of their days shadowing current students.

Potential incoming first-years could be paired with current Hamiltonians who share their academic or extracurricular interests, allowing the prospective students to get a sense of what it is actually like to be a science major or student athlete at Hamilton. Such contact with current students while they are going about their day would provide a more honest and informative understanding of Hamilton and allow students to envision what their lives would be like if they came here.

Additionally, the Office of Admission is not straightforward about many aspects of student life. For example, several of us wish that we had known about the significant influence of Greek life on the social scene or the heavy drinking culture here, which the Office of Admissions continues to downplay and distort. Although we certainly do not expect Admissions to hand out fliers containing lists of caveats to the Hamilton experience, pairing prospective students with current student hosts would allow them to receive honest and more varied answers about what students like and dislike about their time here.

The regimented nature of the day also does not allow for one of the great benefits of prospective students day: the opportunity to meet the other students who would make up their class. A large part of finding the right school is ensuring that your peers are people with whom you want to spend time. Although the rigid schedule of Accepted Students' Day does ensure that prospective students are in the same place at the same time, there are no activities specifically focused on encouraging the students to socialize with each other, particularly without their parents hovering nearby.

Future Accepted Students' Days should focus on providing the potential first-year class with access to hosts who do not work for admissions as well as opportunities to socialize with others students who would be in their class year. Such changes would help escape the overly-structured nature of the day, allowing for exploration and better understanding of what it is to be a Hamilton student.

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Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college and Hamilton community members.

Nevertheless, *The Spectator* has the following policies for submission:

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2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. The Spectator reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
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Letters to the Editor

Re: Homosexuals are not second-class citizens, as Mayor Cory Booker argues

To the Editor:

The recent opinion piece appearing in the *Spectator* by Scott Milne '14 contains several errors and half-truths that deserve to be corrected. In the first place, Milne's article incorporates a term for the LGBTQ community that has long been acknowledged to be offensive and derogatory: "homosexual." The American Psychological Association classified homosexuality as a mental health problem until 1973. Mr. Milne's use of the term "homosexual" recalls the medical community's institutional bias against LGBTQ individuals. The connotation of mental illness that accompanies the term 'homosexual' make it a term to be avoided, especially in the article of one who claims to support rights for the LGBTQ community.

Further, Mr. Milne's premise is sadly misplaced. Though claiming to defend equal legal rights for the LGBTQ community, his narrow focus on the term 'civil rights' shows a misunderstanding of the goals of the LGBTQ movement. The LGBTQ right to marry campaign finds its closest historical parallel in anti-miscegenation laws in the United States, a comparison that Mr. Milne astutely uses. However, Chief Justice Earl Warren's opinion in the case of *Loving v. Virginia* states that, "The mere fact of equal application does not mean that our analysis of these statutes should follow the approach we have taken in cases involving no racial discrimination…" In short, Justice Warren is saying that 14th Amendment grants equal protection to all citizens of the US, not under existing law, but in the creation of new laws to guarantee equal protection to all. Mr. Milne's claim that Warren did not endorse "any idea of marriage except man-woman" because "marriage, socially and legally, was understood to be between a man and a woman" becomes invalid by Warren's own opinion. New laws may be created to guarantee equal rights to marry for LGBTQ couples, since existing laws do not provide equal protection.

Mr. Milne follows this argument with an incomprehensible statement regarding marriage, "Heterosexual marriage is not limited to heterosexuals just as homosexual marriage is not denied solely to homosexuals; a homosexual man can marry a homosexual woman, and a heterosexual man cannot marry another heterosexual man." There is a tradition of LGBTQ individuals entering into a traditional marriage in order to protect themselves from discrimination, but I am not aware of two straight men ever choosing to marry each other. I believe that Mr. Milne is trying to say that since LGBTQ people are not singled out as a class, it is acceptable to place limits on marriage. However, in the case of *Lawrence v. Texas*, the Supreme Court ruled that, "They [gay relationships], whether or not entitled to formal recognition in the law, [are] within the liberty of persons to choose without being punished as criminals. The liberty protected by the Constitution allows homosexual persons the right to choose to enter upon relationships in the confines of their homes and their own private lives and still retain their dignity as free persons." Milne completely misses the point when trying to argue that, "homosexuals are not legally discriminated against as a class." As long as one person is being discriminated against, something is very wrong with the laws of our country.

It is also clear that Mr. Milne has not done his homework in regards to the level of discrimination against same-sex couples. Human Rights Campaign cites 1,138 federal rights that are denied to same-sex couples, including tax breaks, inheritance, Social Security benefits, ease of immigration and health care for a partner. Same-sex unions have every right to be called marriages; marriage is simply the piece of paper that the government gives out entitling couples to economic, social and political benefits. To many people, marriage no longer even involves a church; it is not a religious right to grant marriages any more than it is to grant divorces. Thus the so-called "sanctity of marriage" is no more than a myth to attempt to exclude a sizeable minority of the US population from a basic civil right.

Mr. Milne poses the question, "In what realm of life are homosexuals legally designated and persecuted, as blacks were for so long?" In response, I ask this: Has any other population in American history been banned from such basic rights for so long? Anyone who wishes to be an ally to the LGBTQ community must fight against open homophobia and subtle attacks, including the belief that "There simply is no legal lineage to justify calling same-sex marriage a civil right."

—Claire Hunsinger '13

To the Editor:

Despite my disagreements with the arguments Mr. Milne '14 presents in his opinion article, I can respect his sentiment that we must "engage the other side" in matters of social debate, rather than "demonize it." While the debate over the legal definition of marriage is one that inspires many emotional responses, the slew of hateful rhetoric from both sides is repulsive, especially when it is put forth in the name of an institution based on love.

To my disappointment, Milne undermines his own positive advice with an attack on Mayor Booker. The hyperbolic language Milne uses unfairly paints Booker's opinion, as "divisive, misleading and empty rhetoric" for "a battle of [Booker's] own making." Having heard the speech, I am unclear about the basis by which Milne makes this character assessment.

I am better able to understand Milne's qualm with Booker's speech when he cites the definition of "civil rights" in order to establish a definitional dispute over the mayor's word choice. I would note however, that Booker addresses the legality of civil rights in the context of the 14th amendment, which he states, "talks about equal protection under the laws"—the same laws to which marriage rights "'can be upheld by appeal'" according to the definition Milne provides. In his speech, the mayor alludes to the 1,138 Federal benefits and protections exclusively granted to heterosexual couples with marital status as evidence of the legal discrimination that exists. And if Milne supports the extension of these rights to committed same-sex couples, how does he propose to reconcile the fact that calling such legal unions by a different title would create a "separate but equal" classification?

Sadly, marriage is not the only "realm of life" in which members of the LGBT community are "legally designated and persecuted." In 29 states it is legal for an employer to fire an employee solely based on that individual's sexuality. Likewise the number of states increases to 34 for transgender individuals (hrc.org). A series of "anti-anti-bullying" policies has recently garnered national attention including Tennessee's "Don't Say Gay" bill, and the Annoka-Hennepin School District's sexual orientation policy, which created a hostile environment that led seven students to commit suicide over the course of two years. In Anchorage Alaska, voters rejected Proposition 5, an initiative that would have extended the city's anti-discrimination protections to sexual orientation and gender identity. Oppositional ads to the proposition stated, "Anchorage is already a tolerant city" (Protect Your Rights ad).

Mr. Milne's discussion centers on the "legal conception of second-class citizenry" as he himself admits; however, Milne demonstrates an attitude of the "social conception" towards marriage that designates second-class citizens when he presents an example from "Modern Family": "[Mitchell and Cam's] lives on the sitcom are so exceedingly safe and normal as to make the viewer forget they aren't married." Milne equates marriage with safety and normality, the implication being that unmarried couples do not enjoy the same level of comfort and security in their lives. There are unwritten societal expectations revolving around the institution of marriage that will take a lot longer to remove than any law. Men and women of a certain age face stigma if they have not "settled down." Marriage affords couples a reputation of respectability in the professional and social spheres. Marriage is so engrained in the heteronormative culture that queer individuals would consider, and even engage in, "heterosexual marriage" in order to pass as normal.

And unlike people of any other minority identity, LGBT individuals have to choose between hiding in the closet or coming out, which, speaking from experience, is a personal struggle, even in the safest, most accepting environments. nine out of 10 middle school and high school LGBT students, "full American citizens," cannot fully express their identity without facing harassment (glsen.org). A nontrivial sentiment in this country demonizes queer folk as perverts, sinners, and corruptors of youth who want to convert everyone to a homosexual lifestyle. Although bigotry and homophobia are rooted at a personal level, these attitudes infiltrate the laws of our country and hide behind the façade of family values—family values for which One Million Moms would demand Ellen Degeneres be fired because of her sexuality. So I respectfully disagree with the title of Mr. Milne's article, even though I wish it were true that LGBT Americans could claim to be first-class citizens.

—Ryan Park '12

Thumbs Up

The Spec email trying to replace us! Do it children! We believe in your ability to be much funnier than we are! (Please, free us from our ancestral curse!)

Accepted Students Day Streak: Glad we're showing off our biggest selling point. (Our enthusiasm!)

Saxes in the Chapel: Sax sells, even the Chaplaincy is "doing it."

Thumbs Down

HamTrek: They can run. They can bike. They can swim. But they sure as hell can't make posters.

Dance Marathon: When will they learn? The only time a Hamilton student will pull an all-nighter is after procrastinating for a ten page paper due at 8:30 AM.

Challah for Hunger: Just because I am Jewish doesn't mean I know where they are selling Challah. Stop texting me.

Who Cares?

Vinylmania: Yeah, I went to a gramophone convention in Ithaca instead. You probably never heard about it.

Hamilton Speed Dating: The only faster hookup is after 15 seconds of dancing at the Annex.

We stand corrected, the only faster hookup is after 5 seconds of dancing at Silent Disco.

by Matt Seaman '12, Andrew Robinson '12, Michael Magaziner '14 and Wynn Van Dusen '15

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.

Facebook's acquisition of Instagram is yet another avenue to less consumer privacy

by Daniel Pierro '15
Opinion Contributor

Use Instagram? Congratulations! You are now a user of yet another of the products and applications owned by the Facebook Corporation. For those of you who do not know what Instagram is—which would be bizarre since it is so widely used by college students—it is a photo-sharing, social networking app that allows you to take and edit photos using several different filters and effects.

Instagram is a free app, without any advertisements and virtually no generative source of income. Instagram's widespread use by about 30 million people, and its innovative idea infiltrating the virtual world, led it to be valued at $500 million prior to Facebook's acquisition—half of what Facebook ended up paying. In light of Facebook's continuous attempts to out-do competitors like Google, their purchase of Instagram is unsuprising. The shocking aspect of this takeover, however, is that Instagram generates no revenue whatsoever.

A billion dollars for a company that generates zero revenue, has 13 employees and maintains a huge base of users—this seems rather crazy in good and bad ways. Personally, I think that it is great that investors have faith in the role of the individual as an innovator, as exemplified in the social media revolution. Additionally, it shows just how much small businesses affect our market and daily lives.

But are we putting too much faith in the virtual world? I would agree with the notion that sites like Facebook have had many positive implications on our lives. However, I also think that the blind use of social tools like Facebook and LinkedIn leads us down a slippery slope towards losing more of our privacy and anonymity.

HTTP://SHEPOSTS.COM/

Every time you swipe a credit card, make a phone call, send an email your actions are tracked. Facebook is infamous for tracking these types of actions, in that each article you read on the *New York Post* or *Washington Post* is tracked on your newsfeed, each song you listen to on Spotify is listed and tucked away between the panels of your "Timeline," each status update is put in a chronological order, often tagged with a certain location. Though you must give these applications permission to access your information, it is often impossible to use them without doing so; there isn't much of a choice. Moreover, think about all of the files your computer automatically saves when you search the Internet; do you not find it bizarre that advertisements on Facebook are tailored to anything you've ever "liked" on Facebook?

Now that Facebook has acquired Instagram, it is no question that the application will be tweaked and engineered to fit the mold of uniformity that defines Facebook's software. Each picture we take will be geotagged with our location, each status we update we post will reveal information that most would like to keep private. Our demands to further simplify the world of the Internet are putting our autonomy and our privacy at stake, while also potentially harming our self-image.

Since we now live in a virtual world—a place where we can be or appear to be whoever we want—is the emphasis we place on virtual communication really worth the risk of losing more of our anonymity? Each move we make, article we read, song we listen to, and comment we post is under scrutiny, and therefore, we must be more careful about how we express, present and carry ourselves. And with Facebook's acquisition of Instagram, this trend will only continue to grow.

Next time someone uploads a photo depicting questionable behavior, think about how the logging of that information may impact his or her pursuits in years to come. At one point in this country's history—and some still contend this point nowadays—it was big government that was thought to be an overbearing, evil force creeping its way up on the people. But now, it's private actors, such as corporations, websites and other mediums of virtual communication, that are finding out information as fast as we log in to our Facebook. As we overvalue the social networking phenomena—which I do admit has benefited us in many ways—we continue to slowly sacrifice our privacy in favor of immediate gratification.

The 'War' on Rational Discourse

by Evan Kaplan '12
Opinion Contributor

Politicians are resorting to provocative, misleading rhetoric. This is nothing new, yet the increasingly ubiquitous and already hackneyed "war on [insert issue here]" line, which has been a talking point in media and campaign discourse for months now, marks a new low. Class warfare, the war on women, the war on religion, the war on drugs, the war on terror, and the war on the middle class; it seems the only wars America doesn't wish to discuss are those in Afghanistan and Iraq. As pundits and politicians repeatedly regurgitate these phrases, they imbed them deeper into our popular political vocabulary, which is barren of substance as is, impoverishing it further with provocative and meaningless rhetoric.

Yes, empty political rhetoric is nothing new, but this particular brand of nonsensical tropes makes me think it's time for a discussion. I sincerely hope that few Americans (and even fewer Hamiltonians) have actually been persuaded by these emotive appeals, crafted to influence public opinion without all the fuss that comes with facts and policy discussions. This is not the case of course. Let's be straight: truckloads of money go towards researching which phrases will elicit a party or candidate's desired response so that politicians can parrot them to the media and create winning associations in the minds of the electorate. The GOP is particularly adept at this, hiring consultants like Frank Luntz to craft slogans that make tax hikes for the 1% into 'class warfare,' or a 'war on religion' out of the inexplicably contentious debate over religious institutions' insurance covering their employees' contraception.

Emotionally loaded words, like 'war,' which we associate with death and violence, effectively elicit fear, anger, and a host of other negative responses at a subconscious level. They are also particularly effective with sensitive subjects like religious freedom or social stability. Don't take my word for it though. There are plenty of studies and books that demonstrate how effective these techniques are, and the prevalence of these practices speaks for itself (*The Political Brain* by Drew Westin, for example.)

The point of this article is not to simply say, "These tactics are deplorable and dishonest, so all you politicians stop." That would be moronic. There's no question whether these practices will continue, and, as we have seen with the Democrat's 'war on women' (a charge quickly reversed on them by the GOP), it is something both parties participate in. What I do want to accomplish with this article is to increase awareness of these tactics and reveal how substantially they inhibit rational political discourse in our country. This way we as individuals can make the informed decision to dismiss them and avoid borrowing such rhetoric. Me, I'll take less fire and brimstone, and more policy, but some people prefer to get riled up and point fingers without ever saying much at all. They've heard about 'Obamacare' and its scary 'death panels' and they know how un-American it is and how it's taking away our freedom. Those know the truth about these phrases realize they're designed to convey minimal information—or plainly distort the truth—but elicit as much targeted emotion as possible, creating unconscious associations that manipulate public opinion and circumvent rational discourse.

"Once we know the truth about the creation of these phrases, we will realize how they're designed to convey minimal information—or plainly distort the truth—but elicit as much targeted emotion as possible."

On the topic of rhetorical manipulation, I must refer briefly to Scott Milne's article in last week's *Spectator*, which discussed a particular case of political rhetoric, namely Cory Booker's claim that gays are being treated as second-class citizens in America and that their appeal for marriage equality is a civil rights issue. What Mr. Milne fails to grasp in his ad hoc denunciation of Booker's speech is that, even used rhetorically, 'civil rights' is a legitimate term with a rich history that evokes meaningful associations in the minds of the electorate. Yes, these bring to mind hard and shameful times in America's history, but the struggle they recall embodies America's core egalitarian principles. Rhetoric like Booker's is positive, and more importantly, real. It uses meaningful terms with authentic associations to engage both facts and the electorate's imagination. This positive rhetoric is in sharp contrast with the manufactured 'war on blank'-type tropes which are injected like a virus into our political vocabulary to elicit negative emotions, creating ersatz associations that manipulate voters' beliefs.

I agree with Milne that we should "stop buying into the divisive, misleading and empty rhetoric of politicians or [sic] pundits," and instead engage the issues; I disagree with the rhetoric he finds most deserving of these labels. The rhetoric of war and death that patently distorts the truth, clogging up political discourse with underhanded, substantively bankrupt scare words—this is the rhetoric waging war on rational political discourse.

Letters to the Editor, continued

Re: Bachelor of the week criticized in Daily Bull

To the editor:

Last week, we published a Daily Bull that caused, at the very least, a modicum of distress to several individuals. To Robert Finan et al.: we did not wish to slander anyone, real or fictional. The Daily Bull follows for its "creative process" – if such a concept isn't horribly outdated (or even disproved!) post-Twitter – the Dali-pioneered Paranoiac-Critical Method, after one of us encountered it in a Spanish museum. It might have been the Reina Sophia in Madrid. Pretty inspiring place. But, to get back on track, our artistic intent was merely to create a collage-like effect of personification, and we planned to utilize a Beatesque cut-up style that referenced current events as inspiration and fodder for provocation. The meta-joke about Northface thievery was directed at generally fashion-less people who lose their jackets all the time and then remember we exist; we were unaware of any affiliation between the subject of our piece and various shindigs sponsored by the Community Farm or the general concept of parties on the beach. Likewise, any references to or suggestions of explicit drug use were not based on any observable truths; cokefests exist in our minds only in opposition to pepsifests.

For what it's worth, no "accusations" of homosexuality were intended. A non-normative publication, the Bull tends to forget that there are many who might have forgotten the decade in which we're currently living, and think – rather primitively – that being associated with any same-sex activity (like hobbits cuddling or pledging or using a locker room with other sweaty naked men) impugned or defamed a person. We look reflexively to Blackmun's stirring dissent in Bowers v. Hardwick when faced with dilemmas such as these: "The fact that individuals define themselves in a significant way through their intimate sexual relationships with others suggests, in a Nation as diverse as ours, that there may be many 'right' ways of conducting those relationships, and that much of the richness of a relationship will come from the freedom an individual has to choose the form and nature of these intensely personal bonds." The Daily Bull is, by consensus, pro-Freedom and respects all intensely personal bonds, even James.

Also, sidenote, we are not a satirical publication. We're a countercultural vehicle – like the VW bus of artsy broadsheets. (The satirical one is the Duel Observer, and generally people like them, which gets us pretty blue and makes us want to yellow on them.) The Bull exists purely as a locus of resistance, a particular intersection of heterogeneous forces that work to deconstruct, not reproduce or reify, the overarching matrices of knowledge and power at Hamilton College. Or, to quote Judith Butler, who is far more articulate than any of us: "to be undone by another is a primary necessity, an anguish, to be sure, but also a chance – to be addressed, claimed, bound to what is not me, but also to be moved, to be prompted to act, to address myself elsewhere, and so to vacate the self-sufficient 'I' as a kind of possession. If we speak and try to give an account from this place, we will not be irresponsible, or, if we are, we will surely be forgiven."

All this having been said, we do extend a sincere apology to everyone whose feelings were bruised or outright hurt by that particular issue; in the future we will be sure to feature only truly public figures, like Oprah or the Wu Tang Clan.

-The Daily Bull Creative Team.

HamTrek 2012 is coming up on May 4th!

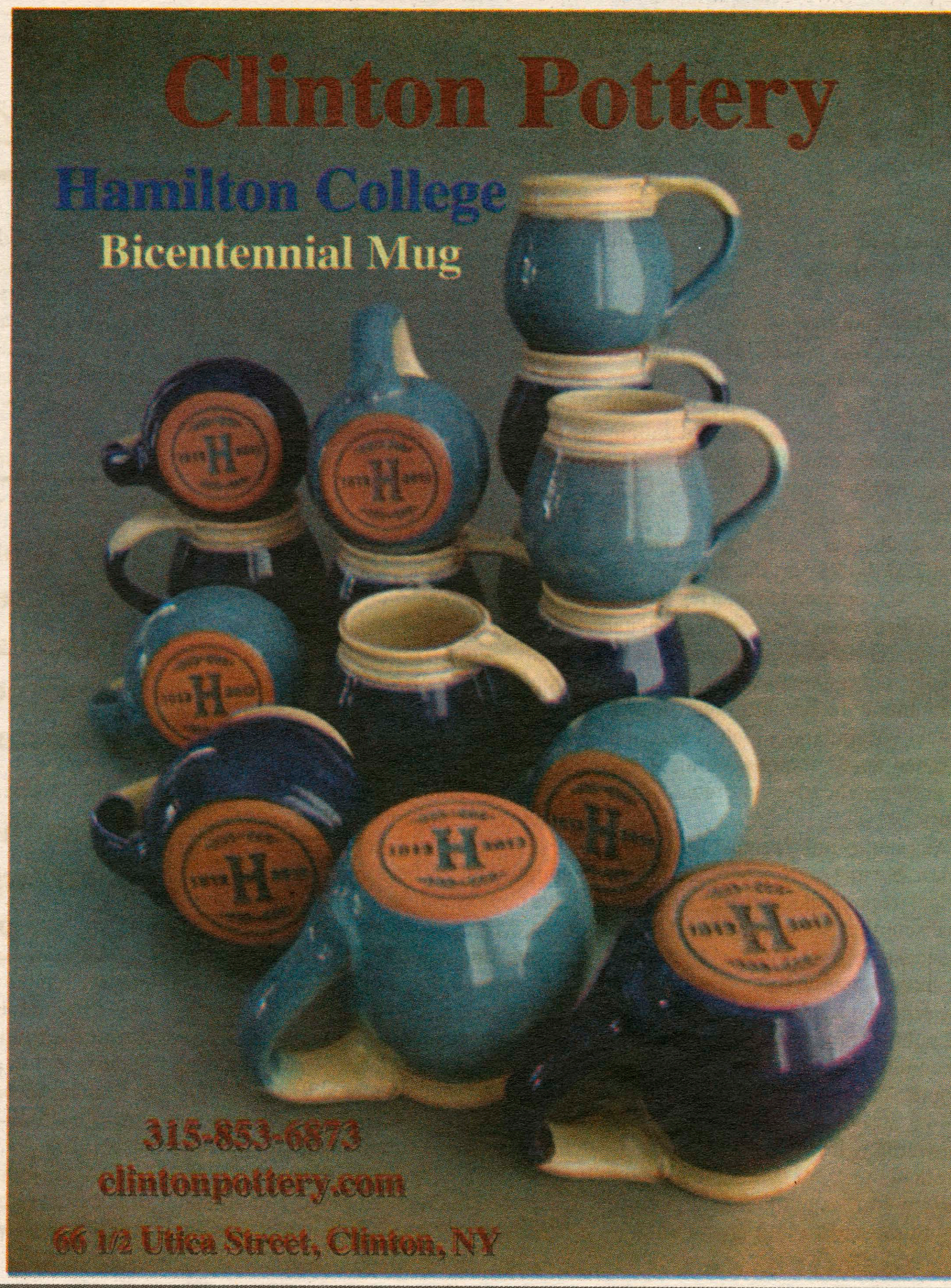
HamTrek is an annual sprint triathlon that consists of a 525-yard swim, a 9-mile bike ride, and a 3.1 mile run. You can participate as a relay or as an individual.

Not a triathlete? Not a problem! All individuals are welcome to simply walk as little as one lap around the track to help support the cause.

Hamtrek raises money for the Shawn Grady Foundation, an organization that helps the families of children who suffer from life-threatening illnesses.

Free registration online!
There'll be prizes!

Register for HamTrek at
hamilton.edu/hamtrek/registration



Under the covers: food and sex

by Jordyn Taylor '12
Features Contributor

PHOTO COURTESY OF JORDYN TAYLOR '12

"Under the Covers" is a monthly column discussing sex and relationships at Hamilton College. To suggest a topic for a future column, contact jtaylor1@hamilton.edu.

Since the dawn of time, humankind has yearned to combine the planet's two greatest pleasures: food and sex. If you're *Seinfeld*'s George Costanza, the solution is simple: stick a submarine sandwich in the bedside drawer and call it a day. If you're anyone with half an ounce of tact, however, you'd probably rule out embarking on a mid-sex sandwich break.

Something you might not have ruled out, however, is the possibility of adding some more—uh—*seductive* foods to your foreplay routine. Ever thought about drizzling chocolate sauce or honey all over your body? How about licking whipped cream off your partner's chest? I'm sure *Cosmo,* at least, has recommended these activities to you at some point in time, right? Well, so sorry to be the bearer of bad news, but I tend to question whether even "sexy" foods can make any real improvement to your love life.

"Have him squirt a trail of whipped cream on your inner thighs, and lap it up when he's done," an article on the *Cosmo* websites suggests. Now, maybe it's just me, but I can't think of anything inherently sexy about a processed dairy product being dispensed from an aerosol can. That's not to mention how surprisingly filling whipped cream is; once you've "lapped up" that "trail" of whipped cream, you might be more ready for a tummy rub than a round of sex.

Honey, then, might seem like a better alternative; it's delicious, all-natural and thankfully doesn't come out of a Cheez Whiz-esque nozzle. But think again. The honey-drizzling part is certainly fun...until you realize you have two nanoseconds to lick it up before it solidifies in a sticky, crusty catastrophe, wreaking havoc on your skin and hair. Don't believe me? Have fun bringing your boyfriend with you to class in the morning because his hair is still inextricably affixed to your navel region.

Cosmo also recommends that "if you have a sweet tooth, dribble some chocolate sauce on your man's abdomen, then slowly lick it off." First of all, I don't recommend scoring a hook-up with the line, "Hey baby, let me dribble some chocolate sauce on your abdomen." Sweet tooth or not, chocolate doesn't seem much more appealing. Sure, it's a known aphrodisiac, but that doesn't mean you have to consume it *during* sex. Call me uptight, but I'm not sure I could focus on licking chocolate sauce off my partner's body if I knew it had the potential to irreparably stain my white duvet.

I heard once that bananas can be fun to incorporate into sex...because nothing gets a man in the mood like watching his partner take bites out of a phallic-shaped fruit.

I'll admit that I'm not *completely* against all food when it comes to foreplay. I think berries are actually pretty seductive and relatively un-awkward. They've got the sweetness without the stickiness, the playfulness without the mess, and they don't come out of an aerosol can.

So what's the verdict on combining food with your foreplay routine? Ultimately, I think it rarely works out the way it's intended to. What seems like a potentially sexy, spicy and innovative idea usually results in a totally awkward, sticky mess. The only potential upside is that you and your partner will inevitably undergo an adorable, laughter-filled bonding session as you realize that you've just squirted chocolate sauce into his eye, or that you don't have the stomach capacity to consume the amount of whipped cream you've just applied across her back.

What's the best way to combine food and sex? Take me for a steak dinner, and *then* let's hit the bedroom.

Students test new mattresses

by Sarah Destin '14
Features Editor

PHOTO BY DAVID MORGAN '15

Ever wanted to spend an afternoon in bed instead of at the library? Well, that's exactly what students who participated in Physical Plant's mattress survey got to do.

Mattresses at Hamilton are on an eight-year cycle, and this year, Physical Plant is planning to purchase mattresses from a different manufacturer and sought students' input on their mattress preferences.

"Our mattress supplier increased his price and we decided to look at options. We received a feeler from another national manufacturer and after talking with them, they built us a mattress similar to what we are interested in purchasing," Assistant Director of Physical Plant Terry Hawkridge said.

Mattresses are replaced every eight years, so Physical Plant is only planning on purchasing approximately 150 mattresses at this time. Physical plant donates the old mattresses that are salvageable to local charities.

"We do not sell old mattresses. We offer them to local charities from Syracuse and Utica, Catholic charities, refugee centers and some shelters. We only landfill the nasty ones," Hawkridge said.

Physical Plant and the Custodial Foreman examined the mattresses before selecting the two mattresses that were tested by students.

"After the new mattresses came in from the second manufacturer, we took a hard look at them. The Custodial Foreman reviewed them the most. They seemed to be good mattresses and had appropriate fire ratings. We then brought in a new mattress kept in storage and put them side-by-side and tested them," Hawkridge said.

Physical Plant received mixed reviews after opening up mattress testing to students.

"The results were mixed, but the student body seemed to like the egg crating texture better and the new mattress company. After we look at the mattresses, costs and references, we will make up our minds," Hawkridge said.

Regardless of Physical Plant's final decision, 150 students can look forward to sleeping on a brand new mattress next year.

Signing out of Hamilton

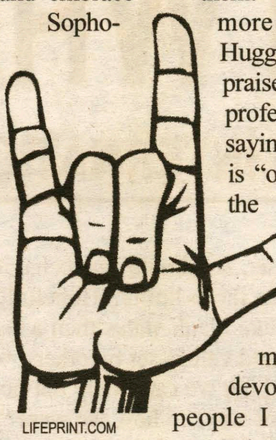
by Nayantara Joshi '14
Features Editor

Class on a Tuesday night? This is reality for 28 students who are part of Education 230, Sign Language and Deaf Culture II this Spring semester. Part of the Education Department, the course focuses on deaf culture while helping students build the skills to become proficient in sign language. A unique aspect of the Hamilton curriculum, students eagerly sign up for the over-enrolled class, which has two sessions, one from 5 to 8 P.M. and one from 6 to 9 P.M., allowing for an hour of small group work.

Sign Language and Deaf Culture I, an introductory course offered in the fall, and II, an advanced course offered in the spring, are both taught by Professor Victoria Allen. Her classes are offered in the evening due to her busy schedule teaching at the New York State School for the Deaf in Rome, NY. She implemented the math/science enrichment program there and also contributes to the creative and performing arts program.

Additionally, she teaches sign language at Utica College, and in her limited free time, her skills have also allowed her to serve as a sign language interpreter across the Mohawk Valley. Professor Allen has also been nominated for the Student Assembly's Sidney Wertimer Teaching Award, one of the highest honors given to professors at Hamilton.

A student raved, "Professor Allen is the most patient, optimistic, friendly, caring, comical professor I have had here, and as a senior I have had a fair share of great professors. She is to be commended not only for her academic excellence but also for striving to bring together the deaf and hearing communities. We often separate ourselves from the deaf because of the communication barrier and because they seem 'different' from us, and she has taught all of us to move beyond our prejudices and embrace them."


LIFEPRINT.COM

Sophomore Tara Huggins praised her professor, saying she is "one of the most devoted people I have ever met and one of the most passionate teachers. She has a desire for students to learn sign language and deaf culture."

The class is comprised of a number of components including hands-on projects that aid in learning sign language. Each semester, students have made music videos in sign language to popular songs. The class also stresses presentations and both receptive and expressive quizzes that test a variety of different vocabulary.

Sign Language and Deaf Culture also gives students the opportunity to visit the Rome School for the Deaf for hands-on learning. Students' deaf buddies also visit Hamilton creating a popular exchange program that has been active for over nine years.

"We always love getting a tour and learning about the Rome School and our deaf buddies love the options of the food at Commons," said Huggins.

Interacting face-to-face with hearing-challenged people is one of the most beneficial ways for Hamilton students to learn sign language and the program has proved to be extremely valuable. Members of the class are also required to go off campus for certain "sign encounters," which Huggins explained can be "anything from an interpreted show or a dinner at Panera for specific nights when many deaf individuals [in the local community] meet to sign."

She described her favorite part of the class as "Vicky's passion for sign language and the breakdown of barriers for those differently-abled." She hopes to one day be able to fluently communicate with such people in sign.

Interpreting in the future is not unrealistic for Sign Language and Deaf Culture students. They have the opportunity to take the First Level Interpreting Exam at the end of the year. Huggins said, "I know many of the students in my class are interested in teaching or foreign languages and see this as a direct correlation to their future."

Professor Allen's Sign Language and Deaf Culture classes offer a great deal to the Hamilton curriculum, and they will surely continue to thrive and contribute to the greater community.

Q&A: Tracy Adler, future Wellin Museum Director

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by Julia Grace Brimelow '14
Features Writer

How do you think the Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum of Art will contribute to Hamilton's mission to teach students to "learn from each other and think for themselves?"

I feel that exposure to the arts is integral to a liberal arts education and instrumental in teaching students to think and problem solve creatively. A museum as an entity ties a wide range of ideas to specific objects and creates new connections for consideration. The art experience is about broadening horizons and helping the audience develop a visual literacy that will inform and enrich life beyond the walls of the museum. A museum on a college campus has the benefit of student involvement, among others, which creates a sense of unity and energy that is both about learning and teaching. Working with art objects is a process of activating the senses and in that way it can be engaging both intellectually and physically.

Tell us more about your own connection to the Arts. Would you consider yourself an artist? Who would you say is your favorite artist? Type of art?

A museum professional is in a unique position acting as an intermediary between artists, curators, scholars and the audience. My job as director is to provide a vision and a general trajectory for the institution. My objective is to create programming that is cutting-edge yet accessible to a wide range of audiences, from the art savvy to those with little exposure to art. With an emphasis on contemporary art, I will develop exhibitions that are of relevance today. I am not an artist, although I am a creative person. I consider the process of writing about art and curating exhibitions to be a creative endeavor. In addition, I am an avid collector of art.

As far as my favorite artists, my curatorial practice emphasizes modern and contemporary art; however my secondary concentration at Skidmore was Renaissance art and my graduate thesis focused on a 19th century subject. I feel connected to works of different eras for different reasons. The project I am working on at any given moment will often influence or dictate the kind of work I am engaged with. But I am very committed to the artists I show. I believe that museums should serve the audience but also artists.

Before coming to Hamilton, you worked at the Hunter College Art Galleries in New York City. What do you expect to be different about directing The Wellin Museum of Art at Hamilton, given its rural location? How do you really feel about moving to the middle of nowhere?

Numerous factors played a role in drawing me to the Wellin Museum of Art at Hamilton College. A major reason was that during my visits to Hamilton College, I was struck by the level of engagement and interest from the staff, faculty and students. Their excitement and enthusiasm was infectious and instrumental in my decision. I hope the Wellin will contribute significantly to the cultural and social life of the community in a way that no single institution in New York City can. Also as a new institution, we can create an identity that reflects significant trends in the art world and other fields that are only beginning to emerge. We can be part of the conversation of what the future holds for art. This exploration is of particular interest to me.

As far as how I feel personally about moving to upstate New York, I think it will be an adventure. My time at Skidmore College, which shares similarities with Hamilton College, was a very memorable period. I've lived in New York City for most of my life and it is an exciting, vibrant and frenetic place both in the art world and otherwise. In addition, I have traveled extensively. I am now looking for a new experience, one that benefits my personal life and offers a new opportunity professionally.

My 4-year-old son has spent his life so far in New York City and I want to introduce him to a new experience—to a world beyond pavement and honking cars. He is very excited about the prospect of having a backyard, something that hardly exists in the city. And for my husband, who is from Toronto, he's halfway home. I will of course retain my connections with New York City and nurture and draw on those crucial relationships in my role as director of the Wellin.

The Art Museum will definitely reinvigorate enthusiasm for the arts on campus. How do you plan on integrating the Art Museum into the campus culture? What role might students play?

I hope that students will be involved in all aspects of the museum and have a role in how we interpret material and present exhibitions. Additionally, I see the Wellin as a place that involves important artists, scholars and professionals in other disciplines, and as a significant player in envisioning the museum of the future.

Do you have any plans to connect the Wellin Museum of Art to the larger Oneida county community?

I have been in contact with institutions within the county as well as other institutions in the northeast. I hope to create a network of likeminded museum leaders with whom we can exchange ideas, artworks, and exhibitions. There is also a large population of artists who live or have studios in the area, and I hope to find a way to connect with that thriving community as well.

You attended Skidmore College as an undergraduate. How did your liberal arts experience contribute to your passion for the Arts?

Skidmore College allowed me to pursue a wide range of interests, including classical piano, dance, Romance Languages, English and art history, which was my major, and studio art, which I minored in. Additionally, I hosted a weekly radio show and was a tutor in the writing center. I also studied abroad in London and Florence. All this fueled my interest in the arts. The study of art history was a way of connecting various fields of study: science, history, politics, social movements and evolving tastes and styles. Art is not merely a record of those disciplines rather it is open to interpretation and at times, highly personal.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HUONG LIEN NGUYEN '15

by Huong Lien Nguyen '15
Features Contributor

Adding to my last "From Where I Sit" piece, I'd like to follow up with something that has occurred to me a lot over this last semester: Do we have personal coordinates or are they a myth only spoken of in an intro of philosophy class?

Do we have free will (can we act rationally)? Or is everything predetermined, and are we akin to robots, simply carrying out a program written for them by forces out of their controls? Well, these questions are (mostly) for philosophers and abstract thinkers to ponder upon, but they very much relate to how we should treat others.

A straightforward analogy to genes or our biological makeup is our background, socio-economic and the geographical coordinates that we were born and raised in. Those numbers are set, so should our behavior be confined to these limits? Hopefully we are more like blank slates then a set of prejudices and values set by others, but I personally think we can't help but be bound in a lot of ways to how we were "programmed." It follows that; surely we are not entirely responsible for how we act towards others of different makeup. So how relevant really is the question of how you treat people of different race/countries/etc. (I concur that the question is way too big to state in its entirety on a column, but then again, it helps to become more aware of the issues at hand…).

The answers are, in my humble opinion, yes and yes—it certainly is and we are very much responsible. In such a diverse community, a culture where the term "melting pot" is so often used as a description (and aptly so), it should come, quite naturally, the multicultural-ness in ones inherent nature. That doesn't just mean having sushi at dinner or knowing the difference between lo mein and chow mein, but knowing that in the East, food is meant to be a shared, communal experience, or that the amount of effort that goes into making a particular kind of food marks its value.

But to be perfectly honest, Hamiltonians-wise, there is little to complain about. And I am definitely not one of the tour guides leading the pack of prospective students. Of course nothing is perfect, but even as the work starts to really roll in (really, where did all these midterms come from?), stress starts to build, and the novelty of an absolutely gorgeous campus fades a little, relatively, Hamilton is a pretty neat place to be a part of.

We are a pretty tight-knit group, but we also make a lot of efforts to reach out, help the community and break the bubble. We are definitely not without borders, but we are very aware of our problems and are working diligently to alleviate them. If you have ventured to the much-revered Career Center, you know just how much our alumni are willing to help out and give back to the college. That should say something about the experience here. Personally, I didn't think coming to the Hill seemed like a learning experience, diversity-wise, *but*, Hamilton unassumingly proved this false. So thank you, Hammy, for being such a good sport!

Dancers brought HEAT to Student Dance Showcase

by Sade Oyalowo '14
Arts and Entertainment Editor

Fans of hip-hop, tap, jazz and contemporary dance were treated to a wonderful assortment of these styles this Sunday night at 7 p.m. in the Dance Studio during the annual Student Choreography Showcase, sponsored by the Student Dance Alliance (SDA). The group's goal is to bring together dancers of different levels on campus and give them the opportunity to take classes and perform.

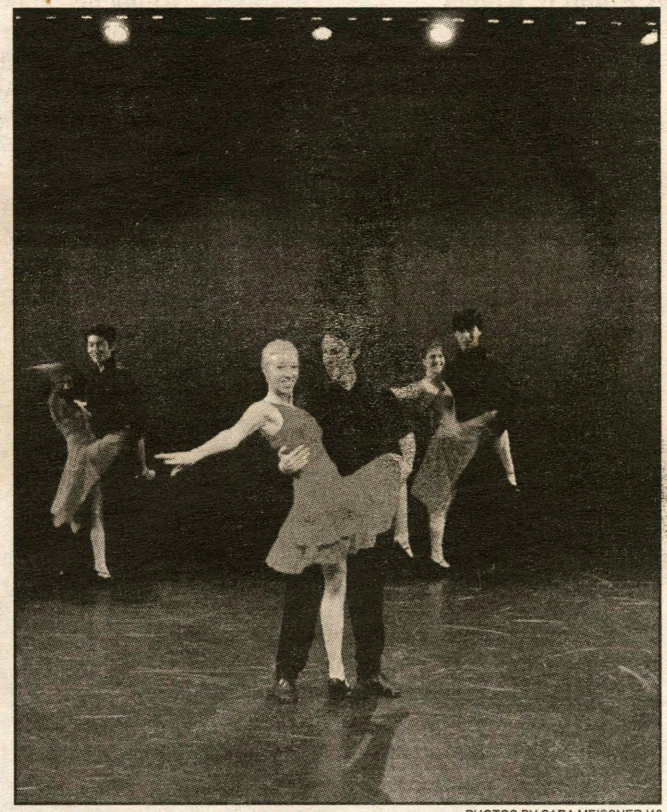
The night began with a performance by HEAT. They revved up the audience with their first dance to "Rack City" by Tyga that included an impressive freestyle portion by Rico Welch '14 and Mike Reyes '14. HEAT's performance consisted of high energy with tons of variation, attitude and complex moves, revealing that the group is capable of much more than the "standard" hip-hop moves. One of their dances, to Drake's "Take Care," resembled a more fluid and African feel as opposed to the hard hitting movements of their hip-hop. The hip-hop troupe performed their usual set which included dances to "Look At Me Now" by Chris Brown, "Party Rock Anthem" by LMFAO and "Ni**as In Paris" by Jay-Z and Kanye West.

Next, choreographed by Andraya Cole '14, students flawlessly performed a contemporary dance with passion and emotion. The dance embodied a fluid, energetic mix of ballet and modern dance, with a significant amount of creative floorwork. This piece illustrated the amazing strength and flexibility of the dancers, who clearly seemed to be enjoying themselves. A cute and fun piece, choreographed by Minou Clark '14, shortly followed. Clark '14 and Liza Strauss '15 performed to Beyonce's "Love on Top" and impressed the crowd with their energy and theatric hip-hop/pop movements.

Immediate applause followed after a quartet of tap dancers performed, which entailed intricate footwork and smooth movements. Afterwards, HEAT members Emma Leeds '12, Minou Clark '14, Sade Oyalowo '14, Carrie Senft '12, Sarah Sidford '13 and Dyllon Young '15 performed a risqué piece to Rihanna's "Cockiness," which resulted in a half-naked Young by the end of the dance.

Providing a cultural balance, the show incorporated Merengue, Bachata, Rumba and Tango dances from Tropical Sol, choreographed by Sarah Forbes '14 and Alex Snow '14. Danced with incredible energy and emotional maturity, Tropical Sol awed the audience with their hot, Latin ballroom moves.

The Student Choreography Showcase was delightful, showcasing a colorful blend of unique dance styles. This 45-minute performance cultivated enthusiastic catcalls and shouts from the audience by the end of the night as the final lights dimmed.



PHOTOS BY SARA MEISSNER '13

Tropical Sol performs "La Morena," a merengue, choreographed by Sarah Forbes '12 and Alex Snow '12.

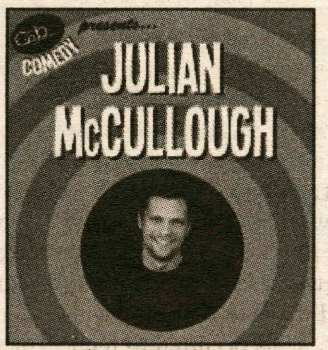
Andraya Cole '14, Emma Leeds '12, Emma Geduldig '13, and Lindsay Kramer '13 perform "Maybe," choreographed by Andraya Cole '14.

A&E weekly schedule

Open Mic Night
8:45 p.m.
Thursday, April 19
Fillius Events Barn

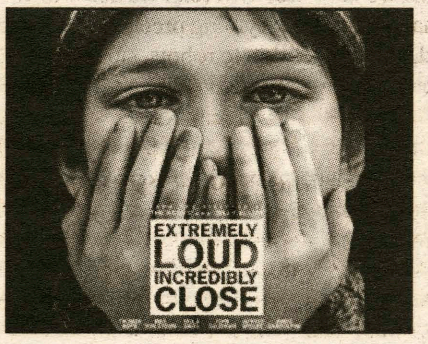
Special K Invitational
featuring RIT's Brick City Singers
Saturday, April 21
The Chapel
6:15 p.m.

CAB Comedy Presents:



April 21
7 p.m.
The Events Barn

CAB Movie Night
Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close
KJ Auditorium
Friday, April 20
6 p.m.



Family folk duo riff with students

by Robin B. Kinnel
Professor emeritus, dept. of Chemistry

Last Friday the campus was graced by virtuoso hammered dulcimer and fiddle player Ken Kolodner and his son Bradley, who plays several kinds of banjos, principally the clawhammer banjo.

PHOTO COURTESY OF AMANDA THORMAN

Father and son duo, Ken and Bradley Kolodner, jam with Feinberg '12.

With a doctorate in Public Health, Ken Kolodner began performing music in the mid 1980s and has made playing and teaching his major focus ever since. He and his son gave what seemed like a spontaneous jam session concert in List.

Much of the music they played had been composed either by Ken or Bradley. Duets, solos and even some singing shaped the concert, during which Ken played the dulcimer, the hammered mbira and the fiddle, while Bradley played the banjo, the banjola and the gourd banjo. On either side of their break, they were joined by Dan Feinberg, '12, on the guitar; Dan grew up with Bradley, and they have played together on several occasions.

The hammered dulcimer has an almost harp like sound except that the strings are struck rather than plucked. In design, it's a bit like a reverse piano, with the lower pitched strings on the left and the melody strings on the right. Also, the pedal, unlike the one on the piano, dampens the sound rather than sustaining it. The hammered mbira has its origins in the African "thumb piano," but is clearly a western extension of that instrument. In timbre it sounds a bit like a steel drum but has a much mellower sound.

For two plus hours, the Kolodners provided a wide variety of listenable music from instruments not often heard on the Hamilton campus. The concert audience showed their appreciation by calling the Kolodners back for a couple of encores.

WHCL CORNER
Show Profile: *Ana Maria Castro*

Friday, 4-5 p.m.

What it's about:
An informative and musical show in Spanish with some interviews to Spanish speaking people.

Expect to hear:
The music will be all in Spanish of any kind like: salsa, tango, flamenco, cumbia, cuarteto, folklore, reggaeton and more. I love Argentine music (tango, folklore, cuarteto and its rock), but I play every kind of Latin music.

Favorite Song(s):
"Balada para un loco" (ballad for a crazy guy) by Astor Piazzolla and Roberto Goyeneche
That song goes out to... My sister "Claudia," I love her.

When is it appropriate to say fried chicken?

by Chip Sinton '13
A&E Contributor

PHOTO BY SARA MEISSNER '13

The full cast of *Orestes 2.0* takes a bow at the end of a thrilling performance.

One always takes a chance when watching a "modernized" anything. While it is wtrue that tragedies of the Greek tradition still provide lasting resonance with the universal concerns we torture ourselves with—love, family, war— we also have daytime soap operas, "Breaking Bad" and "Degrassi: The Next Generation." The pretense, in both senses, of a backdrop of mythology is no longer necessary to get Aesopian lessons and entertainment simultaneously. The urge to modernize, to update classics and overlay hodiernal concerns on eternal strifes, requires walking a fine line between hamfisted preaching and deft commentary. But by marrying Charles Mee's imperfect script with a dark but cheeky cyber-gothic aesthetic and well curated cast, director Craig Latrell more than provides a thought-provoking, engrossing and perversely enjoyable theatrical experience.

From the get-go, it is the small touches of set and symbol that free the script from the page and grab hard without remorse the attention and curiosity of the audience. Minor Theater is certainly far from a great canvas for dramatic settings, but that decrepitness is exactly why Andrew Holland and the labors of his construction crew (I hardly believe the four listed were the only contributors) deserve emphatic plaudits for their imaginative and well-executed face lift.

The two stories overlook our story, every inch used and granted importance. Space and place are warped constantly, the hospice intruded on by conspiracy, media voyeurism and entire worlds—personal, past and fictional.

You walk in, perhaps after a cocktail or two, perhaps with a friend or two, perhaps distracted by papers or hook ups or graduation, and are hit immediately by your surroundings, immersing and fascinating. Is that blood on the tub? Who is that dangling and invalidated invalid? What has happened when I could not watch? This sensory pummel does not relent for more than 45 minutes, but as an exercise in thought it proves rewarding. Bathed in the clunky wall of exposition from the complex Electra—whose words and movements are brought alive by first year Wynn van Dusen's begging-for-an-adjective-other-than-electrfying-but-still-synonymous-because-the-pun-would-be-shockingly-painful performance—you are thrust into the story. Mee keeps the language heavy and assaulting, evoking the experience of watching Shakespeare having never read it, but the staging keeps one from drowning in it, although treading water is encouraged.

The symbols beg reflection on our modern culture—the dying patient clutches a laptop, but we are not told to judge that choice, just see it. The child is played by a doll, stripped of all agency, put on a cutesy tricycle and tasked with something she is not allowed to understand. We can only observe it, forcing on the role the fetishistic innocence and unthinking existence expected —stupidly — of American youth. But the best achievement of this modernization begins with the riveting entrance of senior Jordyn Taylor's Helen.

Generations older than the current crop of undergraduates rightly speak of a divide between on- and offline. But for us, this digital dualism is anachronism, an iPhone in a Euripides play. Social media, texting, and rapid data-retrieval have salvaged meme from Anthropology textbooks, morphed our lives and saturated our culture. Latrell injects his play with meta-tweeting, multimedia walls, livestreams of what's happening directly in front of the spectator and rivers of disorienting information. The theater no longer provides shelter from our new reality, and as your attention is drawn from wall to wall to ringtone to the cellphone in your own pocket (go ahead, check Facebook, Brecht would want it), its is impossible not to question it all. Whether Latrell's choices are the shadows in Plato's Cave or the light of the sun becomes immaterial, regardless, you are aware that something is happening. That this is Then mixed with Now.

There is one thing though that raises tension and reflection in a way unintended by writer or director. Kadahj Bennett '12 in the role of Tyndareus delivers the most compelling performance of the play. For this he deserves nothing but praise. But Charles Mee, in transforming Tyndareus—a wise royal – into another clichéd and racially tinged "Magical Negro" inadvertently shines a bright light on the fact that despite the lip-service paid to progressive causes by the Institutionalized White Males of the theater world, it is a guilty and snooty old liberalism that is pervasive. The trope is made even more obvious by costuming Kadahj as the Morgan-Freeman-archetype.

This is no fault in casting by Latrell— navigating the talent of Mr. Bennett away from a role written for a black male because he is a black male would be just as racially uncomfortable as its existence. The monologue is worth hearing and is as incisive as the play gets. But as an audience we must be cognizant of what, on a meta-level, is happening. What progress has been made is still guided into pre-assigned boxes even in the most (presumedly) liberalized entertainment medium, and the obstacles confronted by students of color remain and will be markedly different than their majority counterparts until radical demographic changes occur.

This, however sadly, is one area where the modernization implied by 2.0 succeeds, in spite of itself.

Truthfully, I have no great affection for the script—perhaps this historical relic should have remained buried or if such an act of reanimation was necessary, Mr. Mee should at least pointed its dialogue to p90x. It could have used a little thinning and strengthening, and that stuff gets results. But driven constantly forward by the natural charisma of John Whitney '12, the unquestionable chops of Michael Breslin '13, the frantic background tragedies of the well-acted Nod-John-William trio, the tantalizing mystery of Tapemouth Woman and all the thespian turns mentioned above, *Orestes 2.0* is a rare must-see on campus for those willing to engage with something exhausting and exhilarating for the mind.

The darkness and shadows of the lighting never lifts. But this is fitting. Giorgio Agamben, in analyzing the apparati of modern times, writes that "the contemporary is the one whose eyes are struck by the beam of darkness that comes from his own time." This play takes the beam of darkness and projects it in words, sounds and video. There is always time to start thinking.

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Thank you,
The Spectator Staff

2012 Days-Massolo Center Spring Calendar

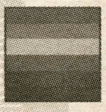
January

Mon, January 23
Appreciating Diversity at Hamilton College: Staff Training
Noon – 4:30 p.m. | Sadove Conference Room

Tues, January 24
Bisexuality 101 & Beyond: Lecture by Robyn Ochs
4:15 p.m. | Sadove Conference Room

Wed, January 25
Reading To Write: Workshop with Poet Terrance Hayes
4:00 p.m. | Days-Massolo Center

Friday, January 27
Celebrate Shabbat & Learn with Rabbi Sigal
5 - 8 p.m., Eells Dining Hall



Tues, January 31
Open Doors: LGBTQA Discussion Group
6:30 p.m. | LGBT Resource Center
(Days-Massolo Center, Rm. 201)

February

Fri, February 3, 10, 17, 24
Study Abroad Info Sessions
Noon – 1:15 p.m. | Days-Massolo Center

Mon, February 6
Black History Month Keynote Lecture: Don C. Sawyer, III "Hip-Hop Culture, Perceived Anti-Intellectualism, and Young Black Males"
4:15 p.m. | KJ Auditorium

Tues, February 7
Brother Outsider: Life of Bayard Rustin (Black History Month Movie)
4:15 p.m. | Days-Massolo Center

Tues, February 14
Good Hair: Documentary by Chris Rock (Black History Month Movie)
4:15 p.m. | Days-Massolo Center

Wed, February 15
Book Reading with David Pratt '80: "Bob the Book"
4:15 p.m. | Days-Massolo Cente

Tues, February 21
Female Chauvinist Pigs: Lecture by Ariel Levy
Part of Womyns' History Month
7:00 p.m. | Events Barn

Thurs, February 23
Deep Roots: A Panel Discussion on Hair with Dr. Noliwe Rooks
7:00 p.m. | Red Pit

Fri, February 24
Preserving Culture through Dance & Music Workshop with Oyu Oro Afro-Cuban Experimental Dance Ensemble
4:00 p.m. | Wellin Hall

March

Mon, March 26
The Ongoing Salience of Race and Religion in "Post-Racial" America: Professor Jaideep Singh
Asian Pacific Islander History Month
4:15 p.m. | Days-Massolo Center

For more information, please contact Amit Taneja, Director, Days-Massolo Center, at ataneja@hamilton.edu or call 315-859-4252

Contact the Days-Massolo Center:

- 315.859.4252
- ataneja@hamilton.edu
- www.hamilton.edu/days-massolo-center/
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April

Tues, April 3
The Asian-American Experience in the Contemporary USA: Cathy Bao Bean
Asian Pacific Islander History Month
6:00 p.m. | Red Pit

Thurs, April 5
Class, Race and the Alternative Food Movement in the USA
Professor Psyche Williams-Forson
4:15 p.m. | Red Pit

Tues, April 10
Lecture by Professor France Winddance Twine
4:15 p.m. | Red Pit

Wed, April 18
Fatal Invention: Recreating Race in the 21st Century
Professor Dorothy Roberts
7:30 p.m. | Chapel

The 2012 spring semester events are co-sponsored with the following departments:

Africana Studies, Asian Cultural Society, Associated Colleges in China Biology Department, Black & Latino Student Union, Chaplaincy, Chief Diversity Officer, Dean of Faculty Speakers Fund, Diversity & Social Justice Project, Elihu Root Peace Fund, English & Creative Writing Department, Hamilton College Academic Year in Spain (HCAYS), Hamilton College Junior Year in France (HCJYF), Hillel, Human Resources, Kirkland Endowment Advisory Committee, Music Department, New York State Independent College Consortium for Study in India (NYSICCSI), Office of Alumni Relations, Office of the Associate Dean of Students for Multicultural Affairs, Office of Off-Campus Study, Performing Arts Series, Rainbow Alliance, Womyn's Center, and Women's Studies.

Hamilton
DAYS-MASSOLO CENTER

Tennis teams toppled at Trinity

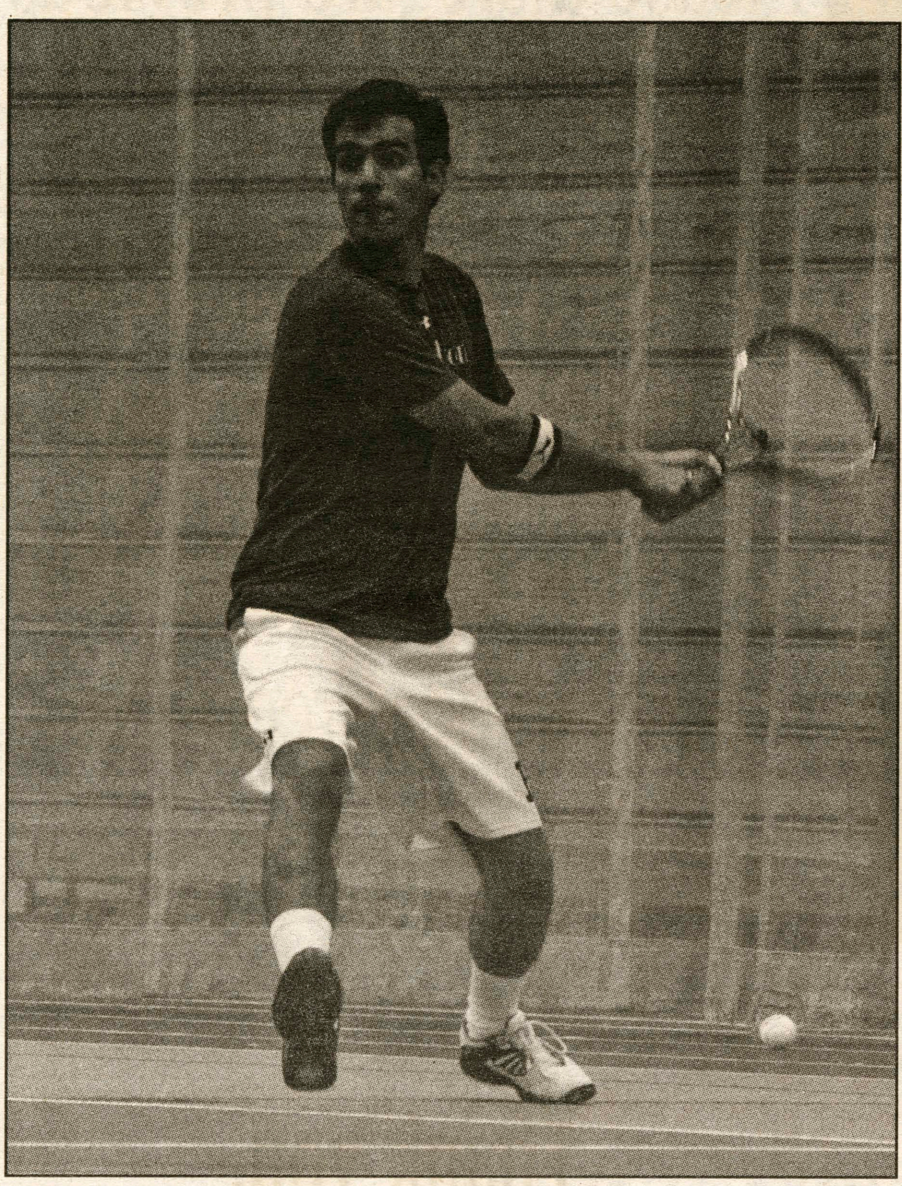

PHOTO BY SARA MEISSNER '13

Kolya Kerz '13 has tallied a 7-4 singles record this season.

by Samantha Stoner '13
Sports Contributor

The Continentals' recent NESCAC matches against Wesleyan and Trinity have put an end to the winning streak both teams enjoyed at the beginning of the season.

Men's and women's tennis are now being tested against the tougher teams of the NESCAC, such as the Trinity Bantams, who have only lost twice to other NESCAC teams all season.

"The level of play and dedication from every member of the team that I have seen thus far has been really impressive," commented senior Coby Berman, "but the teams that we are playing against have been consistently experienced and well-practiced teams—we're facing really tough opponents."

> **"The teams that we are playing against have been consistently experienced and well-practiced teams; we're facing really tough opponents."**
> *—Coby Berman '12*

The men's team had a chance to get back on track during a match this past week against St. Lawrence, which they won 7-2 and did so without losing any of their singles matches.

Kolya Kerz '13 said, "Our win against St. Lawrence was a really great boost to the team's morale after suffering some tough losses against Trinity and Wesleyan, helping us to focus and look forward to our NESCAC matches this upcoming weekend."

The women's team did not travel to St. Lawrence to play but remain undeterred from their hopes of winning their upcoming NESCAC matches.

"Despite our recent losses, we know that we have been facing some really tough teams," noted freshman standout Carrie Uhlein. "The leadership and motivation of the older girls on the team, particularly the seniors, have kept the team's morale up and our drive still going at practice."

The women's team is looking forward to their match this weekend against Colby as a "chance to bond," but don't think their desire to win has diminished at all. Junior Alex Arenson makes this fact evident, who was recently said, "It's a good thing none of my friends play tennis because if they ever beat me, we wouldn't be friends anymore.

"Plus," she added, "I have a secret crush on two guys on the men's team and always want to play extra well in their presence."

The good news for Arenson and the rest of the women's team is that the men's team will be going to Colby this weekend, so hopefully they can play to impress.

The Continentals will return home for the men to play Hobart on April 25 and the women will play Utica College on April 29.

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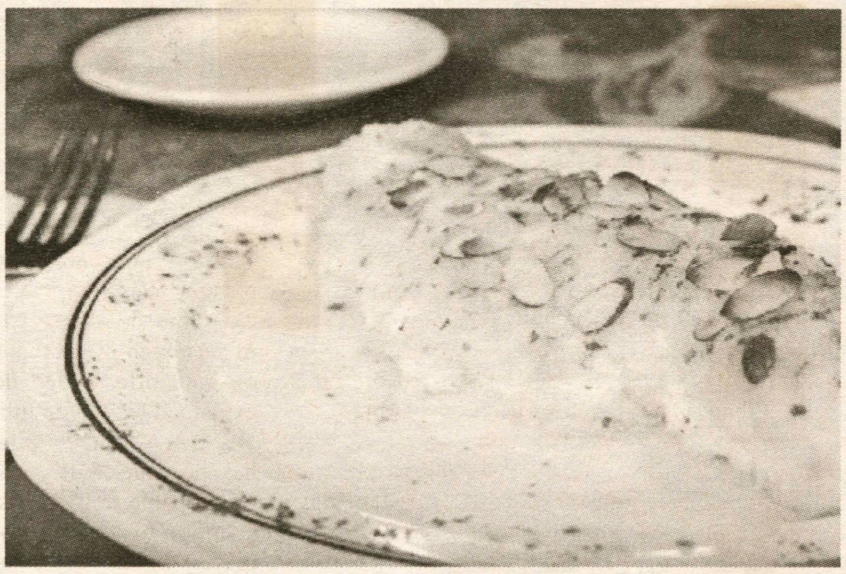

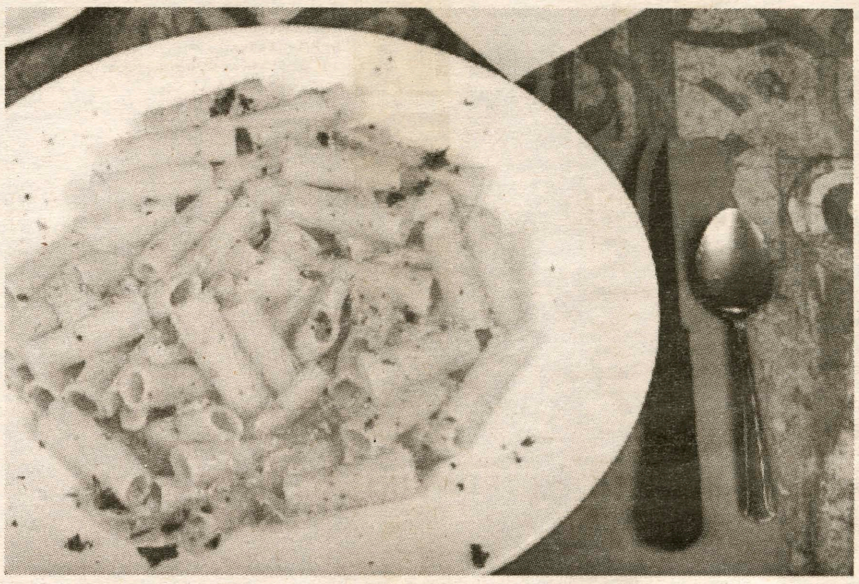

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Men's lacrosse punches ticket to NESCAC tourney

from M. Lax, page 16

Lacrosse Magazine in a recent interview:

"Looking back, that kind of hurt us. We confused playing with enthusiasm with playing smart, because we were playing stupid and undisciplined. We were taking quick shots. We were flustered."

"The fact that we're staying under the radar is perfect for us. We like the underdog role, and we like surprising teams."
—Coach Scott Barnard

Since they got on the board with their first NESCAC win against Middlebury, it has been Hamilton's opponents that have been flustered. Coach Barnard, however, wants to make sure that the team stays humble about its recent success as they approach the final push of the 2012 campaign.

"We have a lot left to prove. We haven't earned anything yet," Barnard told *Lacrosse Magazine*. "The fact that we're staying under the radar is perfect for us. We like the underdog role, and we like surprising teams. It's our first year in the NESCAC, and we're just trying to keep our head down and stay quiet."

If they beat Trinity in Saturday's game and head into the NESCAC tournament having won seven out of eight, however, the Continentals may have a hard time staying under the radar. If they haven't already, people in the Division III lacrosse world are going to start taking notice. This team may just be for real.

PHOTO BY SARA MEISSNER '13

Madison Beres '15, scoring once vs. Conn, has scored eight goals this season.

Women's lacrosse lighting up score boards everywhere

by Patrick English '15
Sports Contributor

Last week, the women's lacrosse team (6-6, 4-4 NESCAC), ranked eighteenth in the nation, traveled to play William Smith College (5-6, 4-1 Liberty League) and Connecticut College (6-5, 3-4 NESCAC).

Hamilton got off to a great start at William Smith, taking an early 2-0 lead on goals by Rachel Friedman '13 and Libby Schultz '12. The scoring was back and forth for the rest of the half. Rosie Scheibel of William Smith scored two goals, and Schultz scored her second for Hamilton to take a 3-2 lead to the half.

The back and forth scoring continued into the second half, with Ellen Esterhay '14, Katie D'Antonio '14 and Kathryn Maiorano '14 scoring for Hamilton.

With no goals in the last four minutes, the game went into overtime tied at six. Esterhay had one goal, and Friedman had two in the extra period to close the game for Hamilton, a 9-7 win. Schiebel led the scoring for William Smith with four points.

Friedman had three goals for the Continentals, Schultz had two goals and an assist and Esterhay added two goals off the bench. Dewi Caswell '14 and Kari Koga '15 each had five saves in net for Hamilton.

Against Connecticut College, the Hamilton scorers went on an absolute tear. Hamilton logged seven unanswered goals in a six minute stretch of the first half, taking a commanding 8-1 lead. Connecticut College rallied back with three goals at the end of the half to go into halftime down 10-5.

After finishing the half strong, the Camels came out tough with three more goals, including two from star Ashley Crutchfield, to cut the game to 10-8. Hamilton battled back with three straight goals, including two from D'Antonio, before Crutchfield netted another for Conn.

Hamilton rallied back with four consectuvie goals to take a 17-9 lead. Connecticut attempted to rally right back, scoring three more, but Hamilton scored the final two to win 19-12. Crutchfield and Lowell Abbot each had three goals for the Camels.

The scoring was reasonably spread out for Hamilton, as D'Antonio had five goals and two assists, Schultz had two goals and three assists, Friedman had four goals and Ashley Allen '12, Hannah Hoar '13 and Emily Brodsky '14 each scored two goals. Sara Berthiaume '15 and Madison Beres '15 also added goals. Koga and Caswell had two saves each for Hamilton.

"This week was great for us as a team, we are finally falling into a stride and stacking multiple wins on top of each other," explained star defender Meg Pengue '12. "We have a lot of confidence going into this week against Trinity and Ithaca and are looking forward to some more NESCAC competition.

"It feels great to be back at .500 and back in the mix," Pengue continued.

The final two games of the regular season are at Trinity College (8-3, 6-1 NESCAC) on Saturday, April 21 at 12 p.m. and at home against former Liberty League rival Ithaca College (7-3) on Tuesday, April 24 at 4:30 p.m.

Athlete of the Week: Katie D'Antonio '14

PHOTO BY MIKE DOHERTY

D'Antonio is scoring close to three points per game.

by Becca Hazlett '13
Sports Columnist

The women's lacrosse team has been on a roll since their loss against Middlebury. They are 3-0 in the past two weeks, including two key wins against Bates and Connecticut College. A key factor in these wins has been sophomore sensation Katie D'Antonio.

D'Antonio has started in all 12 games for the Continentals. Thus far, she has tallied 41 points—22 goals and nine assists. Not only is she an offensive threat, but she is also a vital defensive component; she has recorded 22 ground balls and caused nine turnovers on that side of the ball. In their most recent win against Connecticut College, D'Antonio tallied a career high of seven points with five goals and two assists.

Even though D'Antonio has become a talented lacrosse player, she didn't always want to play. In fact, she said she started playing lacrosse in second grade and hated it. However, as a person that never gives up, she gave lacrosse another shot in fifth grade and she has been playing ever since.

When asked why she decided to come to Hamilton, D'Antonio explained, "because it was the friendliest place and my recruiting trip was a lot of fun. It set Hamilton apart from the other schools I was considering."

Although she never experienced a home game as a recruit, she said her favorite part of playing Hamilton women's lacrosse is "the competition and the lobster trap that comes out for support."

The lobster trap is the loyal women's lacrosse following, consisting of women's hockey, field hockey, rugby and soccer players who attend every home game dressed in the craziest clothes they can find.

Before games, D'Antonio doesn't partake in any special rituals, but she does enjoy the dance parties in the locker room. When in need of support and inspiration, she says she often turns to the five seniors on the team, all of whom are proven valuable leaders.

D'Antonio, who received the Rookie of the Year award last year, is very humble and always puts the team first.

"She constantly performs in very high-pressure situations on both offense and defense," explained teammate Julia Beaty '13. "Her work ethic, along with her speed and skill, makes Katie unstoppable and allows her to continue to be one of the best players in our very competitive league.

"She is an incredibly selfless player both off and on the field, which is reinforced by her humble attitude that has remained consistent each year," continued Beaty.

When D'Antonio is not dominating her opponents on the lacrosse field, she likes to hang out with her friends, but you will not find her in the gym as she said, "when I'm off the field, I am definitely not working out."

H SPECTATOR SPORTS
April 19, 2012

Crew teams ranked best in NY state

PHOTO BY MIKE DOHERTY

The women's team has put a string of wins together in preparation for the upcoming NY State Championships and ECAC Championships.

by Kendall Weir '12
Sports Editor

Last spring, everyone on the Hill had their eyes on Hamilton's women's lacrosse team, given they were ranked as the country's best team in the preseason. This spring, everyone should be eyeing our crew teams, who are ranked first in New York State and tenth in the country for Division III.

The women's team got off to a running start over spring break, beating nine teams en route to winning the Mayor's Cup for the second consecutive year. One of those teams was 13th-ranked St. Lawrence.

"We have a long-standing rivalry with St. Lawrence," said standout coxswain Kelsey Burke '13. "Hamilton won both the varsity and second varsity women's events when we competed in Tampa, but after many weeks of both teams gaining strength and speed, this will be a tough test." The test refers to Hamilton's slated trip to St. Lawrence this weekend.

The best crew teams, especially at this level, tend to progress over the course of the season and save their best performances for last. With states coming up in a few short weeks, this weekend's matchup will certainly help the Continentals gauge just how far they can go in the postseason.

Since traveling to Florida, the women's team put together a string of wins before falling to William Smith College, who ranks just ahead of Hamilton.

Seniors Antonia Villa and Holly Bailey captain the team, but crew is a team sport, and that shows with this group.

"Everyone's goal is to make the whole team faster, whether it be individually improving technique in the boat [or] cheering on teammates from shore," said Burke. "The boats keep getting faster, and that's thanks to everyone on the team."

Last weekend, they took home the Gilman Plate and Gilman Goblet by way of sweeping upstate neighbor Union College on the Erie Canal.

"It's a friendly competition with Union that puts trophies on the line, and the girls were really happy to put up another W for Hamilton," noted Burke.

The women's crew team, maybe Hamilton's best athletic team for the 2011-12 season, hosts their final home race this Sunday, April 22.

"[We are] hoping to maintain our ranking as first team in New York, so we would appreciate all the support we can get from the Hamilton College community!" Burke added.

The men's team has experienced a few more ups and downs this season, but they hope they are saving their best for last.

"Our goals are always to perform well in the regular season, but there is always speed to be gained and a lot can change by championships," said captain Chris Visentin '12. "As a crew, I think our boats are some of the fastest we've seen in a while."

Winning the Mayor's Cup in Tampa was a group effort from both teams, and the men's team has since defeated Tufts and Tulane as well. The senior leadership has been crucial to all the team's success this spring.

"Chris [Visentin] and Adam Minchew ['12] have had phenomenal seasons," said Simon Judd '13. "Andre Matias ['12] has performed especially well coming off a serious injury."

After recently falling to Union and RIT, the men will also head north to race St. Lawrence, and it sounds like a similar story to that of the women's team.

"St. Lawrence and Hamilton have a longstanding rivalry," noted Visentin. "The regular season meet has a trophy dedicated to it named in memory of a past Hamilton rower for the winning varsity eight."

The men haven't been able to hoist that trophy for a couple years, but they are optimistic about doing so this weekend:

"We're racing them this weekend, so the race is definitely circled on our calendar," said Visentin.

Leanos '12 helps will men's lacrosse over Williams

by Steve LaRochelle '14
Sports Staff Writer

Out of the 43 shots the Hamilton men's lacrosse team took under the lights at Williams College on Tuesday night, there's only one that everyone is talking about.

Coming out of a timeout in the waning moments of a third sudden-victory overtime, team captain Jon Leanos '12 ripped an unassisted goal from the top of the crease to lift the Continentals to a crucial conference victory, clinching them a spot in their first-ever NESCAC quarterfinal. Leanos, an All-Liberty League performer as a junior last season, climbed to second in the NESCAC in points (39) with his stellar performance on Tuesday.

Leanos will look to continue his hot scoring streak as the Continentals enter another pivotal conference matchup this weekend when the second place Trinity College Bantams (6-2 NESCAC) come to town. Although winning the regular season title is officially out of the question for Hamilton, they can improve their seed in the NESCAC Championship with a win on Saturday. If the season ended today, they would finish in eighth place and draw the first place Tufts Jumbos (7-1 NESCAC) in the opening round of the tournament.

The Jumbos handled the Continentals 15-8 in the season opener back on March 10, but if recent results are suggestive of any sort of trend, Hamilton no longer bears any resemblance to who they were before spring break.

"In the first couple games, we put a lot of pressure on ourselves to make a statement [in the conference] right away," Leanos told

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PHOTO BY SARA MEISSNER '13

Paul Citarella '12 has played a pivotal role taking faceoffs this season.